

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to an Office Action mailed November 1, 2007. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the subject application as amended herein.

Claim Summary

Claims 18-23, 29-31, and 34-48 remain in the present application. Claims 1-17, 24-28, and 32-33 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claim Rejections

In the November 1, 2007 Office Action, claims 18-23, 29-31, and 34-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,339,400 issued to Flint et al. (hereinafter "Flint"). Applicant has amended the claims to clearly distinguish over Flint. For example amended claim 18 includes:

An apparatus comprising:
a skin of a computing device, said skin comprising a conductive material;
a first slot in the skin;
a first directional element coupled to the first slot beneath the skin to form a first sector slot antenna having a first directional radiation pattern;
a second slot in the skin; and
a second directional element coupled to the second slot beneath the skin for form a second sector slot antenna having a second directional radiation pattern in a different direction than the first sector slot antenna, said first sector slot antenna and said second sector slot antenna together comprising a sector antenna system.

- 9 -

Atty. Docket No.: P17641
Application No.: 10/750,557

In amended claim 18, slot antennas are cut, or otherwise formed, directly out of the skin of a computing device. Directional elements are coupled to the slots under the skin of the computing device to turn the slots into sector slot antennas with directional radiation patterns. For example, in one embodiment, the directional element may be a cavity having a depth of one-quarter the wavelength of a resonant frequency of the sector slot antenna. In another embodiment, the directional element may be an Artificial Magnetic Conductor (AMC).

In contrast, Flint specifically describes antenna configurations that reside inside the covers of a laptop computer (Flint; col. 4, lines 29-31). For instance, Flint describes antennas coupled to the support frame for a display embedded inside the lid of a laptop computer (Flint; Figs 3, 3A, 4, 6, and 7; col. 1, lines 47-50; col. 3, lines 15-17 and 24-26; col. 4, lines 5-9).

Flint also describes antennas cut out of the RF shielding foil on the back of a display (Flint; Fig. 13; col. 1, line 66 to col. 2, line 2; col. 3, lines 26-27). That display and foil, however, are clearly inside the lid of a laptop computer. For instance, display 350 in Fig. 3A of Flint is inside the lid. Furthermore, no laptop in Applicant's experience has ever had RF shielding foil on the external surface of the device behind the display. The foil is much too delicate.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Flint's "embedded" antennas clearly are not formed in the "skin" of a computing device, as claimed in amended claim 18.

Thus, given that Flint does not suggest or disclose slot antennas in the skin of a computing device, Applicant respectfully submits that Flint cannot possibly suggest or disclose a "directional element coupled to the ... slot beneath the skin to form a ... sector slot antenna having a ... directional radiation pattern," as claimed in amended claim 18.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 18 is not anticipated by Flint.

Applicant submits that the reasoning presented above with respect to amended claim 18 similarly applies to claims 19-23, 29-31, and 34-48. Thus, for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 19-23, 29-31, and 34-48, as amended, are likewise not anticipated by Flint.

In the November 1, 2007 Office Action, claims 32-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application 2004/0257283 by Asano et al. (hereinafter "Asano"). Claims 32-33 have been canceled from the present application, thereby rendering the rejection of such claims moot.

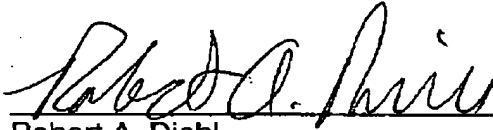
In conclusion, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 18-23, 29-31, and 34-48 are now in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests allowance of such claims.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to our Deposit Account No. 50-0221.

Respectfully submitted,

INTEL CORPORATION

Date: Apr 1, 2008



Robert A. Diehl
Reg. No. 40,992

INTEL CORPORATION
C/O Intellevate, LLC
P.O. Box 52050
Minneapolis, MN 55402
Phone: (503) 712-1880
FAX: (503) 264-1729